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Bangalore Mirror

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CITY / PAGE 2

CRUEL INTENTIONS

Activists slam 'unscientific, impractical, flawed' SOPs issued by Animal Welfare Board of India to remove strays from campuses

CITY / PAGE 7

PASS OR FAIL

Despite crackdowns, hundreds of invalid vehicle passes, misusing names of MLAs and MLCs, still afloat in city

Recent crackdowns show increasing grip of opioid-based painkillers on youngsters, who misuse the prescription drugs to get high; number of cases rising as enforcement is strict and extensive, say police

HIGH DOSE

Alternative to traditional narcotics concerning as they are easily accessible, cheaper

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

With intensified police action against narcotics and synthetic drugs in the city, alternative substances such as painkillers continue to pose a serious threat to young users. Recent crackdowns have once again brought these tablets into focus as they are cheaper, easily accessible, and often slipping through routine drug-enforcement checks.

A series of cases registered over the past weeks, including incidents of peddlers targeting students, has highlighted the trend. However, City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh said the rise in such cases is also a result of strengthened enforcement, noting that recent initiatives are helping the police identify networks and crack down on peddlers more effectively.

A constable from High Grounds Police Station filed a complaint on Wednesday after allegedly intercepting a man on a motorcycle near BBMP ground in Vasanthnagar. The patrol was part of a morning crackdown aimed at curbing drug sales and consumption in the area. At around 10.30 am, the constable spotted the suspect seemingly in the process of peddling tablets, later identified as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

"These tablets contain opioid-based substances meant only for legitimate pain management. When misused, particularly via injection, they become as dangerous as illicit narcotics

—City-based doctor

Boots on the ground

710 people assist cops, experience what it is like to manage traffic on city's roads

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As many as 1,603 people registered for the 'Be a Traffic Cop for a Day' initiative and 710 participants have already completed their experience on the ground.

This unique public engagement programme rolled out by the Bengaluru traffic police was designed as a hands-on civic initiative; it places citizens alongside trained officers at traffic junctions of their choice. Participants assist with signalling, guiding pedestrians, managing queues of vehicles and observing real-time enforcement tactics.

One of the volunteers, who experienced it recently, told BM, "Spending just two hours with the traffic police completely changed how I look at the city's traffic. I understood the loopholes, the pressure the officers work under, and how impatient the public can be, even when it comes to simply crossing the road or using a skywalk."

The idea, officials say, is to help citizens understand the scale and complexity of traffic management in a city with over 1.22 crore registered vehicles and one of the highest congestion densities in the country.

Traffic Commissioner Karthik Reddy said the programme was launched with dual intentions. "We did not do any trials earlier, but we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Echoes of silence

'Beauty Isn't the Point: A Collection of Non-Objective Works', a solo exhibition featuring Chennai-based artist RB Murari's non-objective abstract works, focuses on emotional exploration and inner experience through form, color, rhythm, and silence. **Where: Chitrakala Parishath, Seshadripuram; When: December 8 to 14, 10 am onwards**

02 Stage saga

Primetime Theatre Co is presenting 'Dance like a Man', directed by Lilette Dubey, delving into the lives of two Bharatanatyam dancers past their prime, contrasting their struggles with that of their daughter, who is on the verge of becoming a successful dancer. **Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar; When: December 6, 3.30 pm and 7.30 pm**

03 The written world

Bangalore Literature Festival, the city's flagship literary event, is all set for a spectacular fourteenth edition. The two-day event will feature a host of authors and speakers, including renowned novelists and fiction writers. **Where: Freedom Park; When: December 6 and 7, 9 am onwards**

04 Rhythm unbound

Thaikkudam Bridge will be performing live, bringing their signature fusion of rock, folk, classical, indie, and world music in a high energy concert. **Where: Forum South, Konanakunte; When: Dec 13, 7 pm**

05 Classic reimagined

As part of the Bengaluru Theatre Festival Season 2, Vinay Pathak will be starring in 'Nothing Like Lear', directed by Rajat Kapoor, a poignant and humorous take inspired by Shakespeare's classic. **Where: Good Shepherd Auditorium, Shanthala Nagar; When: December 6, 7 pm**

Dog SOP draws fire from animal lovers

City-based activists underline that many clauses in Animal Welfare Board's SOP exceed SC's directions and contain provisions that are unscientific, impractical, and impossible to implement

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In accordance with the Supreme Court's (SC) order regarding the management of stray dogs within institutional premises, the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) has recently issued a circular outlining the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for implementing the order. According to AWBI, the circular issued on November 27 follows SC's instructions and aims to ensure a uniform national framework for prevention of dog-bite incidents and management of stray dogs in both public and private institutional areas.

However, city-based activists have called for the withdrawal or urgent revision of the SOP, arguing that its shortcomings could negatively impact animal welfare. They say that many clauses in the SOP exceed the directions of the SC and contain provisions that are unscientific, impractical, and impossible to implement.

A petition against the SOP by CJ Memorial Trust, a city-based NGO, underlines that the document directly contravenes the fundamental principle of the statutory Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023, which mandate that sterilised and vaccinated dogs must be returned to their original territory. The SOP has not leveraged public consultation, is poorly thought through, and is not only detrimental to animal welfare but specifically harmful to the country's community dogs, the petition has noted.

Activists urge withdrawal or revision of SOP, arguing that its shortcomings could negatively impact animal welfare

"The standards for shelters (given by AWBI in its SOP) are logistically unfeasible and demonstrate a clear lack of application of the mind. The board made no public, institutional attempt to counter the permanent sheltering system in its response to the Supreme Court, as expected from the board. The board, instead of its recent SOP, should have come up with a stringent structure for shelters so a certain standard is maintained," said Priya Chetty-Rajagopal, Trustee, CJ Memorial Trust.

'SOP surpasses SC directions'

City-based animal welfare workers underline that the SOP has expanded the scope of the SC's order to catch dogs and impound them in shelters beyond the institutions named in the judgment – hospitals, educational institutions, train and bus stands, sports complexes.

AWBI's SOP advises identification of other public places (over and above those mentioned in SC's November 7 judgment), such as religious places, children's parks, airports, helipads, seaports, tourist sites, and recreational spots.

According to Harini Raghavan of Citizens for Animal Birth Control, the SOP from AWBI is unconstitutional. "The Animal Birth Control Rule of 2023 is derived from PCA, which does not support impounding. However, AWBI has taken the easy route and has also added parks, temple premises, and recreational facilities to the list from which dogs can be removed. The board has always struggled with a shortage of staff, which has led to several delays in various procedures, leading to animal cruelty. We urge AWBI to withdraw the SOP with immediate effect," said Raghavan.

Framework seen as deeply flawed

Experts say the SOP is a major letdown. Ideally, AWBI should have proactively educated the Centre as well as the SC about the inevitable ecological disaster that will follow if dogs are impounded, apart from the cruelty towards animals.

"Instead, they have maintained silence throughout and have now come up with an SOP that will allow anybody and everybody to get rid of dogs or collect dogs without proper space, facilities, and accreditation for a certain standard as an NGO. More than introspection, AWBI should be dissolved for enabling such large-scale cruelty on animals," said Sadhana Hegde, founder of Sahavarthin Animal Welfare Trust, a city-based NGO.

Filming wraps for 'Kshame Irali Thande'

Filming for the Kannada film 'Kshame Irali Thande' has finished, marking the directorial debut of actor Moog Suresh. The film is produced and directed by MN Suresh and written by S Harish, who also handled the screenplay and dialogues. The project is now in post-production, with editing and sound work in progress. The story focuses on a middle-class government employee and a father's sacrifice for his son's future. The technical team includes Suryakant on cinematography and Muthuraj on editing. The cast features Manjunath Hegde, Renuka Bali, Moog Suresh, Shreemant, Rekha Sagar, and Vinya Shetty in key roles. **— BMB**

Official order issued on monthly menstrual leave

The Karnataka government has issued an order granting one day of menstrual leave every month to all women employees in state services, aiming to support their well-being. Effective immediately, the facility applies to women aged 18 to 52 and does not require any medical certificate for availing the leave. The State Employees' Association has welcomed the decision and plans to formally thank the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister. A similar order was earlier issued on November 12, extending 12 days of paid menstrual leave annually—one day each month—to all permanent, contract and outsourced women workers across industries and establishments in the state. **— BMB**

Drumstick hits ₹500–₹600/kg as vegetable prices surge

Heavy rains in Tamil Nadu and disrupted crop arrivals have caused an unprecedented spike in vegetable prices, with drumsticks leading the surge at Rs 500 to Rs 600 per kg; up from just Rs 130 to Rs 150 a month ago. Tomato rates too have doubled to Rs 50 to Rs 65 per kg as rains destroyed saplings during the sowing phase. Bengaluru's wholesale markets report sharply reduced inflows, with daily drumstick supply dropping from 100 tonnes to barely 30–40 tonnes. Key growing regions like Kolar and Chikkaballapur have also suffered low yields. Prices of beans, chillies, okra, potatoes, gourds and winter staples remain elevated at Rs 60 to Rs 120 per kg. Traders warn that meaningful price correction is unlikely before late January or February when fresh harvests are expected. **— BMB**

Karnataka set to scrap third SSLC, PUC exam?

The Karnataka Education Department, which recently lowered the SSLC and PUC pass marks from 35 per cent to 33 per cent, is preparing to discontinue the three-exam system introduced over the last two years. Though the department has already released the final timetables for Exam-1 and Exam-2 this year, it has avoided announcing dates for a third test; signalling that the format may be scrapped altogether. Officials note that with reduced pass marks, most students are clearing the first two exams, and those appearing for the third attempt are not showing significant improvement in scores, making the extra exam unnecessary. Originally, only two attempts were allowed, but the three-exam policy was introduced after Madhu Bangarappa assumed charge as Education Minister. Now, following internal discussions, the department is expected to formally withdraw the third exam soon. As per the existing schedule, the SSLC annual exam will be held from March 18 to April 2, while the II PUC exams for 2026 are slated for February 28 to March 17. **— BMB**

CRIME FILES

Foreigners nabbed with MDMA, Hydro Ganja

Bengaluru's Central Crime Branch (CCB) Narcotics Wing has arrested two foreign nationals and seized a total of 10.369 kg of MDMA crystals and 8 kg of Hydro Ganja, with a combined value of approximately 28.75 crore. The operation is part of an ongoing crackdown on narcotics supply ahead of New Year celebrations.

In the first case, a raid at a rented house in P&T Layout, Sampigehalli, led to the seizure of 9.254 kg of MDMA crystals worth 18.50 crore. Nancy Omary Lawa (25) from Tanzania, who had arrived in India on a tourist visa in 2023 and later worked as a hairstylist in Bengaluru, was arrested. Materials used for drug distribution and her mobile phone were also seized.

In a separate incident under Siddapura police limits, Emmanuel Arinze (28) from Nigeria was arrested near Lalbagh South Gate with 1.115 kg of MDMA worth 2.25 crore. Acting on a Customs alert at Chamarajpet Foreign Post Office, officers also recovered 8 kg of Hydro Ganja valued at 8 crore.

–BMB

Thieves caught red-handed with stolen mobiles

Four individuals were arrested for their involvement in a series of mobile phone thefts and the illegal sale of stolen goods across Bengaluru, leading to the recovery of 120 mobile phones, a stolen two-wheeler, and ₹3,500 in cash, valued at approximately ₹18 lakh.

The case began after a resident of Subbanna Garden, under Govindarajanagar Police Station, filed a complaint on September 22, 2025, reporting his mobile phone had been snatched near the BBMP office at PF Layout. On November 7, police arrested two suspects from Goripalya along with the stolen phone. They confessed to multiple thefts and were remanded to 13 days' custody.

Further investigation led to two more arrests—on November 9 near Kengeri with four phones, and November 16 near Subbanna Garden. Subsequent searches recovered 20 phones from Goripalya, 72 from Basaveshwaranagar, and 17 phones plus a two-wheeler near Gangondanahalli.

The accused—Parvez, Zubairuddin, Saddam, and Amjad Pasha—were linked to resale of stolen phones. Police confirmed the arrests helped solve five cases, including four mobile thefts and a bike theft. Efforts continue to trace owners of 119 phones.

–BMB

Cash, gold, car seized from robbers

Hebbagodi Police arrested two individuals in a house theft case and recovered stolen property worth ₹1.16 crore, including ₹1.14 crore in cash, a 16-gram gold chain, and a Maruti Suzuki 800 car used in the crime.

The case was registered after a resident of an apartment in Hulimangala village complained on November 9, 2025, stating that unknown miscreants had broken into their home on November 8 while the family was away and stolen cash and gold.

Acting on the complaint, police arrested Srinivasa Murthy and Arun Kumar near Nayandahalli Circle on November 19. During questioning, both confessed to the theft, which they had planned by watching YouTube. Arun had previously worked as an electrician in the victim's house.

The accused revealed that portions of the stolen money were hidden at multiple locations. Police recovered ₹93 lakh from a residence, ₹7 lakh from a shop, ₹7 lakh from a bank account, and ₹7 lakh from a female associate in Jigani. The gold chain and getaway vehicle were also seized. Both were remanded to judicial custody, and investigations continue.

–BMB

Custodial death: 4 cops suspended, case with CID

Four police officers, including a station inspector, have been suspended and charged with murder following the death of a 22-year-old Dalit youth who was allegedly tortured in police custody before being transferred to a rehabilitation centre.

Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh issued the suspension order on Tuesday against Viveknagar Police Station Inspector Shivakumar, Constable Pavan, and two other officers after a preliminary inquiry found prima facie evidence of custodial assault. Police Inspector Veeresh R has been temporarily assigned charge of Viveknagar Police Station until further notice.

The victim, identified as Darshan PG, a resident of Sonnenahalli, was reportedly taken into custody and assaulted before being admitted to Unity Social Service Trust Rehabilitation Centre in Adakamaranahalli on November 16. He died ten days later, on November 26.

Following his death, the Madanayakanahalli Police registered a case under Sections 103(1) (murder) and 127(3) (wrongful confinement) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Section 3(2)(v) of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. The owner of the rehabilitation centre has also been named as an accused. With allegations against the police confirmed during the initial inquiry, the investigation has now been transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department.

–BMB

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Sluggish Metro work sparks Minister's ire

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda issued directives to multiple agencies after expressing displeasure over the sluggish progress of Metro construction works along the Outer Ring Road (ORR) and Ballari Road during an inspection from Nagawara Junction to Yelahanka on Wednesday.

Reviewing the state of works across several choke points, the minister criticised the lack of coordination, prolonged delays, and traffic bottlenecks caused by unremoved debris, blocked service lanes and incomplete infrastructure.

At Nagawara Junction, the minister called for swift completion of pending Metro works, removal of excess materials and debris, and restoration of service roads for smoother traffic. At Veerannapalya, he demanded an immediate cleanup of rubble and directed that barricades be placed without hampering vehicle movement. Near Venkatan Cafe, he objected to both service road lanes being shut and insisted that at least one be reopened and kept motorable.

Along Ballari Road near Esteem Mall, he directed NHAI to provide proper entry and exit points to the service road and allocate sufficient space for bus bays. At Kodigehalli Junction, he voiced concern over Metro works lingering since 2021 and instructed officials to ensure commuters are not burdened by further disruptions. On Hebbal Road, he pressed NHAI, Metro and the North City Corporation to maintain all stretches in traffic-ready condition. Concluding the inspection, he ordered a coordinated, high-intensity cleanliness drive from Hebbal to Bagalur Cross involving all three agencies.

— BMB

Eco-conscious road resurfacing enhances durability and safety

Innovative eco-friendly road material withstands heavy traffic, prevents potholes, requires minimal curing, and improves overall safety and durability

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Residents of Electronic City Township witnessed a rapid and environmentally conscious road repair on Tuesday, as a team executed an eco-friendly concrete road surface restoration, offering a promising alternative to conventional bitumen patchwork. The resurfacing was carried out on a skinned-out stretch of concrete road using a specialised repair material designed for speed, strength, and sustainability. It was undertaken as a pilot to check efficiency, performance, and durability.

According to PM Hiremath, Civil Engineer and Sustainable Technology Propagator, who oversaw the intervention, the material is engineered to address some of the most persistent issues seen on Bengaluru's internal roads, including premature wear, pothole formation, and reduced structural lifespan. "We used an eco-friendly concrete repair material that sets within 15 minutes and achieves high early compressive strength. It requires no priming, no curing, and bonds seamlessly with the existing surface. The restored portion could be opened to traffic within just three hours, significantly reducing downtime for commuters, unlike normal concrete," said Hiremath.

The material comes with several performance advantages, including being non-shrink, 100% waterproof, fire resistant, and unaffected by sulphates and chlorides, which often contribute to deterioration of traditional road surfaces. Being a green material, it also supports ongoing efforts to reduce the carbon footprint of urban infrastructure. Hiremath, coordinating with stakeholders to frame specifications, emphasised that these innovations align with the state's sustainability goals.

Electronic City roads upgraded with fast, eco-conscious concrete technology

2022 report by Global Cement and Concrete Association (GCCA) highlighted that while concrete and bituminous pavements have advantages and limitations, concrete roads excel in life-cycle cost, durability, and performance under Indian monsoon conditions

A 2022 report by the Global Cement and Concrete Association (GCCA) pointed out that while both concrete and bituminous pavements offer pros and cons, concrete roads stand out in terms of life-cycle cost, durability, and suitability for Indian monsoon conditions. India's urban roads face heavy, often unpredictable traffic loads, and concrete pavements have been shown to withstand these stresses more effectively.

The GCCA report highlighted that even though initial cost of white-topped and concrete roads is higher, long-term value is significantly greater. Their longevity reduces maintenance frequency, minimises recurring costs, and ensures smoother, safer mobility. "Better road infrastructure is essential for a developing country like India," the report noted, calling for materials that balance performance with sustainability.

Hiremath also pointed out that bitumen roads are considered inferior due to poor durability under certain conditions, including susceptibility to water damage causing cracks and potholes, potential to contribute to air pollution, faster wear, and more frequent maintenance requirements. Their fumes can also be hazardous during construction and in hot weather, making concrete alternatives more suitable.

Ward revisions refuel political naming clash

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The Urban Development Department had earlier issued a final notification that stirred considerable debate. Yelahanka MLA SR Vishwanath had publicly questioned why a ward in his constituency was named Aakash, asking what the reference was and alleging it could be linked to DyCM DK Shivakumar's son, Akash Kemparaju. In response, the department rolled out a revised notification that redraws boundaries and renames several wards across the five municipal corporations under the GBA. After reviewing select concerns, it issued an updated version dated December 1, triggering another round of civic discussion.

Central shift

In Central Bengaluru, the borders of Indiranagar (Ward 15) and New Thippasandra (Ward 16) have been carefully realigned. This adjustment aims to balance population clusters while improving overall administrative coordination across the area.

North shuffle

North Bengaluru sees the most significant reshuffle, particularly in Yelahanka constituency. Raja Venkatappa Ward, initially listed as Ward 1, is now redesignated as Ward 3 Chowdeshwari. Aakash Ward has been renamed Aero City Ward, while Yelahanka Old Town takes on the title of Raja Venkatappa as the new Ward 1. In Sarvagnanagar, the earlier Kalyan Nagar designation is simplified and reaffirmed as Kalyan Nagar Ward.

South switch

South Bengaluru undergoes its own changes. In Padmanabhanagar constituency, Kumaraswamy Ward is rebranded as Yarab Nagar. The boundaries of Doresanipalya (56), Bilekahalli (60), Garvebhavi Palya (65) and Singasandra (66) have also been reshaped to match updated demographic patterns.

Aakash Ward has been renamed Aero City Ward, while Yelahanka Old Town takes on the title of Raja Venkatappa as the new Ward 1

East rewrite

East Bengaluru's KR Puram region witnesses multiple name updates. TC Palya becomes Anandapura; Medahalli is now Basavanapura; Basavanapura shifts to Krishnanagar; Chikka Devasandra becomes Devasandra; and Devasandra evolves into Rajarajeshwari Temple Ward. In Mahadevapura, Shivan Samudra Ward is renamed Doddanekundi to better reflect local geography.

West recode

West Bengaluru's Yeshwanthpur constituency actively participates in the ongoing ward renaming wave. Kengeri becomes Shivanapalya, Hemmigepura changes to Kengeri Kote, and Mallasandra adopts the name Kengeri, completing a three-way rotation cycle.

Ward numbers

Across the corporation clusters, the updated ward counts remain unchanged: Central Bengaluru has 63 wards, North 72, South 72, East 50 and West 112. Each assembly constituency retains its allotted share, maintaining the overall structure while names and boundaries receive a strategic refresh.

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Drainage failure

Nagenahalli

Frequent sewage overflows and persistent foul odours along Guddadahalli–Hebbal V and Nagenahalli Main Road are posing serious health risks, highlighting the urgent need for immediate drainage repair.

Dangerous crossing

Uttarahalli

Crossing the busy road toward Kengeri and PB Nagar has become extremely dangerous, prompting residents to demand a skywalk for the safety of schoolchildren and senior citizens.

Sinking manhole

Victoria Layout

A damaged manhole on Palmgrove Cross Road in Victoria Layout, left sinking for over a week by a contractor, requires immediate repair to prevent accidents.

Man dies by suicide after naming neighbours in death note

A 45-year-old is said to have died by suicide at a building under construction after naming his neighbour's housekeeper in a handwritten death note, in Whitefield on Wednesday

The deceased has been identified as Murali Govindaraju, a resident of the locality. According to police, he died by suicide inside a nearly completed under-construction building where about 90% of the work had been finished and after he had allegedly moved in to the house. Before taking the extreme step, Murali is said to have written a death note naming his neighbours Shashi Nambiyar (64), Usha Nambiyar (57), and Varun Nambiyar. Police have arrested Shashi and Usha following the allegations mentioned in the note, while further inquiry regarding Varun is underway. In the death note, Murali reportedly wrote that he had purchased land from a relative of Shashi and Usha. He stated that he faced several issues during the construction process and frequently received notices from the Greater Bangalore Authority (GBA). Murali alleged that the neighbours were behind these complaints and notices. However, the exact details and nature of the dispute have not yet been confirmed.

Officials from Whitefield Police Station visited the spot soon after the incident reported at 10:30 am and recovered the note. The body has been sent for postmortem. Murali's mother Lakshmi filed a complaint. **-BMB**

(If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts, reach out to Tele-Manas helpline: 14416 or 1800-891-4416, SAHAI Helpline: 080-25497777)

Crowd-control SOP ready for court

The Karnataka government has finalised a standard operating procedure (SOP) to regulate crowds at public events and informed the High Court that it will be submitted shortly. The development follows the court's suo motu PIL on the June 4 Chinnaswamy Stadium stampede during the RCB victory celebration, which claimed 11 lives. Representing the state, Advocate General K Shashikiran Shetty said the SOP for managing public gatherings is ready and will include additional recommendations suggested by amicus curiae S Sushila. The court directed the government to share the SOP with all parties and scheduled the next hearing for January 20. **-BMB**

Interstate house burglar arrested

Police have arrested an interstate house burglar and recovered 504 grams of gold jewellery, 1.46 kg of silver ornaments, and ₹34,000 in cash, together valued at approximately ₹70 lakh. The arrest has led to the detection of 17 burglary cases across Bengaluru. The case originated from a complaint filed on October 20, by a resident of Nisarga Layout under KR Puram Police Station limits. According to the complainant, the family had gone to a mall on October 19 and upon returning around 11.30 pm, discovered the back door broken and valuables missing. Following technical analysis and field intelligence, police detained a suspect near Pillanna Garden on October 31. During interrogation, the accused admitted to committing the burglary and confessed involvement in multiple similar crimes. **-BMB**

Meal boycott over tobacco clampdown

A sweeping ban on bidis and cigarettes at Bengaluru's Parappana Agrahara Central Prison has sparked serious unrest, with undertrials and convicts staging a sit-in outside the administrative block. Prisoners have been skipping meals for three days, demanding that the jail canteen restore tobacco sales that had been available for years. The ban was imposed after officials uncovered a series of illegal activities inside the prison, prompting a complete halt to tobacco products and tighter security measures. Following recent revelations about special privileges extended to select inmates, the administration has gone on high alert as the protests intensify. With mounting pressure from hundreds of prisoners, security across the premises has been strengthened to prevent further escalation. **-BMB**

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GBA urged to act as BECC khata fraud deepens

Property owners allege rampant corruption, delayed action and illegal e-khatas in East Corporation limits despite repeated complaints and clear court injunctions

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Complainants say repeated appeals to Joint Commissioner and police yielded no action, allowing corrupt officials to keep issuing unlawful entries and e-khatas

Residents battling fraudulent khatas say officials ignored court orders, misused records and prolonged investigations. With complaints piling up, they now await whether GBA will hold BECC's revenue officials accountable

Though it is heartening to know about the stringent action taken by Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) against its six officers for issuing fraudulent e-khatas for illegal 128 vacant lands, hapless property owners in other areas especially in Bengaluru East City Corporation (BECC) limits have been running pillar to post seeking justice. They are finding it tough not only to make numerous visits to the authorities concerned but also to grease the palms of corrupt officials.

Property owners allege widespread apathy and negligence among lower-level revenue staff, despite repeated directions from senior officials to rectify errors in land records. Their struggle has only deepened as complaints remain unaddressed and accountability appears inconsistent across divisions.

A case in point is the FIR (0486/2025) filed by Ramamurthy Nagar Police against Kerala Samajam office-bearers and the Assistant Revenue Officer (ARO) of BECC. According to the FIR, the alleged fraud mirrors earlier irregularities by corrupt officials in other zones. Although the FIR was registered on August 1, 2025, no charge sheet has been filed even four months later, raising further concerns among complainants.

One complainant had approached the Joint Commissioner as early as June 20, 2023, requesting the cancellation of khatas issued on the basis of forged documents. Authorities, including the then BBMP Chief Commissioner and the ARO, were informed about an injunction order issued by the City Civil Court concerning a property in Vijinapura (Ward No. 51), Kothur village. Despite this, neither the police nor senior officials took action against the ARO for allegedly creating illegal B-entries in the register and subsequently issuing e-khatas based on those entries.

The complainant argues that the irregularities in Vijinapura closely resemble those reported at Survey No. 31/2 in Naganathapura village, Bengaluru South taluk. In both cases, large parcels of land—10 acres and 3 guntas in Vijinapura—received A-khatas without proper verification of documents, enabling land developers to sell sites to unsuspecting buyers.

Even after the BECC Joint Commissioner directed the ARO on January 17, 2025, to act in accordance with the court order, more illegal khatas were allegedly issued. Mistrust grows as owners fear bearing consequences.

Online e-Khata halted over legal gaps

The Greater Bengaluru Authority has scrapped the online, faceless e-Khata distribution system, launched on November 10, and reinstated the old manual process from Wednesday. The new system, modelled on the Central IT Department's procedures, aimed to reduce middlemen, curb corruption and allow property owners to apply online without visiting the office. However, officials raised strong objections, pointing to the lack of legal provisions in the GBA Act, difficulties in verifying documents and delays in field inspections for certain properties. Under the scrapped round-robin model, applications were automatically assigned to external officials, but rising volumes created a significant backlog. With the return to the manual system, ward officers will again handle applications within a set timeframe, ensuring proper verification and accountability. Officials say this shift will streamline e-Khata issuance and prevent procedural and legal complications seen during the short-lived online rollout.

HC demands full data on missing cases

The Karnataka High Court on Wednesday directed the State government to submit comprehensive statistics on all missing persons cases reported between 2020 and 2025. The data must include the total number of complaints filed, how many were acted upon, and how many individuals were traced during the period, ensuring greater transparency and accountability in police responses.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj expressed sharp concern over the manner in which such cases are being handled, observing that authorities often close files without substantial progress. "Nothing is happening in missing persons cases… This is a serious issue — children missing, no action," the court remarked, stressing that even routine investigations demand greater diligence.

The direction was issued while hearing a petition filed by Mahesh, who sought a thorough investigation into the disappearance of Kumar and requested an updated status report on the probe. Although the government advocate argued that the complaint had been lodged a year late and that the police had taken all possible steps, the court found the response inadequate and lacking clarity.

The bench instructed the State to provide category-wise and age-wise data for missing men, women, boys, and girls, along with details of how many were traced and whether follow-up action was initiated. The Additional Government Advocate was given a week to file objections. The matter will be heard again next week. **–BMB**

SC admits ISKCON temple review plea

The Supreme Court on Wednesday agreed to hear a review petition filed by ISKCON India challenging its May 16 judgment that declared the iconic Hare Krishna temple in Bengaluru as the property of the city-based ISKCON Society. A bench comprising Justices M.M. Sundresh, Prashant Kumar Mishra and Satish Chandra Sharma issued notice and admitted the review plea, along with similar petitions, seeking responses from the Bengaluru faction of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) and other parties involved in the long-running dispute.

The apex court's May 16 ruling had overturned a 2011 Karnataka High Court decision that granted administrative control of the Bengaluru temple to the Mumbai faction. The decades-long dispute resurfaced on October 28 after a two-judge bench delivered a split verdict on ISKCON India's earlier review plea, prompting the matter to be placed before a larger bench for reconsideration as the legal complexities continued to intensify. **–PTI**

High-stakes KSCA election battle intensifies ahead of crucial committee vote

Star cricketers and seasoned administrators engage in high-voltage campaigning as KSCA members weigh leadership, stability and vision ahead of Sunday's ballot

| Ikram Khan
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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The elections for the management committee of the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) scheduled to be held on Sunday, Dec 7 is hotting up. The two teams, led by former India Test cricketer and KSCA secretary Brijesh Patel and former Indian cricketer Venkatesh Prasad, have left no stone unturned in their endeavour to top the list.

According to senior members of the cricket club, promotions, high-profile projections and door-to-door campaigns have become the norm in the run-up to the polls. In the marquee for the post of president contest, Shanth Kumar, director of Deccan Herald and Prajavani and a key member of the Brijesh team is up against Venkatesh Prasad. Meanwhile, former India opening batsman Sujith Somasunder from the Prasad team is taking on former Bangalore Turf Club (BTC) chairman Vinod Sivappa from the Brijesh side. The face-off between two former cricketers and two seasoned administrators has sparked considerable interest among members.

Close battles for treasurer and joint secretary posts intensify, as internal surveys suggest some candidates hold early advantages before the ballot

Most members believe that a stable committee with clear vision and a strong focus on infrastructural and administrative improvement is essential for KSCA's progress. In the race for the secretary's chair, ES Jairam, treasurer of the previous committee is contesting against Santosh Menon from the Venkatesh Prasad camp. While MS Vinay has been fielded by the Brijesh group for the treasure's post. BK Ravi, BCCI National Panel umpire and former assistant secretary of the club, also from the Brijesh team, is seen as a strong contender for joint secretary.

Both camps insist that they are confident of victory. The Brijesh Patel group, said to have conducted well-planned and aggressive campaigns, appears buoyant, while the Venkatesh Prasad brigade hopes to stage an upset by banking on the goodwill and credibility of its cricketing leaders. With more than 1,500 members expected to vote, many feel that candidates with proven leadership, administrative capability and long-term commitment to the game will enjoy a clear edge.

Ground reports suggest that the Brijesh group currently holds the advantage, with members expressing confidence in the slate led by Shanth Kumar. "They have picked a good team and it should come through," said a long-time Brijesh supporter. However, supporters of Prasad and Sujith Somasunder remain optimistic, arguing that the cricketers connecting with grassroots players may still turn the tide.

Several members believe that Shanth Kumar will be difficult to unseat and that Vinod Sivappa, credited with revitalising BTC and the Mysore Race Club, stands a strong chance as well.

Fake MLA vehicle passes continue to flood city

Unauthorised use of forged representative passes highlighting pressing need for tighter monitoring, digital records, and action against fraudulent vehicle tagging

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Despite continued police action against hundreds of invalid vehicles passes, the misuse of passes allegedly issued to MLAs and MLCs in the city remains a persistent concern for police and activists alike. Officers have repeatedly caught individuals using passes meant for elected representatives, yet fake and illegal passes continue to circulate widely, allowing unauthorised vehicles to evade checks and occupy restricted spaces.

A recent example highlights the issue clearly. A Toyota Innova with registration number KA05NJ0099 was found parked in a 'No Parking' zone near a bank in Uttarahalli. The sticker displayed on the windshield claimed to belong to a Ford Endeavour bearing registration LA51MN2000, creating an obvious mismatch between the authorised vehicle and the one displaying the pass.

The vehicle with MLA vehicle pass parked at Amala enclave near SBI Bank, Uttarahalli

IN FOCUS
Spurious passes

According to social activist Nischit Ashok Kumar, the sticker indicated it was issued for a legislator from Chikkamagaluru, yet the name was either unclear or misrepresented. He noted that the sticker mentioned vehicle number KA51MN2000 along with the name of MLA C T Ravi, but it had been affixed to the unrelated Innova, strongly suggesting deliberate misuse of official identification.

When contacted, staff members at the office of CT Ravi stated that the pass appeared to be fake. They clarified that neither the pass nor the vehicle displaying the sticker belonged to the legislator. They added that an official pass had been misplaced four months earlier, but the sticker found on the parked vehicle did not match the one that went missing.

Meanwhile, Karnataka Legislative Assembly Secretary MK Vishalakshi advised the public to report such misuse directly to the police whenever they encounter suspicious vehicle passes. She stated that no formal complaints had yet been received regarding misuse and emphasised that newer passes include constituency details to curb counterfeiting. She added that any police case would prompt verification by the Assembly Secretariat.

Despite these assurances, activists argue that the continued presence of fake and mismatched passes shows systemic gaps that require urgent attention. They believe unauthorised vehicles displaying MLA or MLC stickers can misuse the perceived authority these passes provide, allowing individuals to bypass enforcement and occupy restricted spaces without scrutiny. Police officials maintain that they are consistently cracking down on such violations but acknowledge that counterfeit passes often resemble genuine ones closely, complicating quick detection. Activists further warn that if these fake passes fall into the hands of anti-social elements, they could be used to evade security checks at sensitive locations, potentially posing significant risks.

INBRIEF

State boosts on-foot forest patrolling, expands command centres

Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre has instructed the Karnataka Forest Department to monitor on-foot patrolling of the forest area by frontline staff. In a meeting held at Kollegal with forest officials of the Chamarajanagar and Mysuru circles on December 3, Khandre said patrolling must be monitored through the e-Gastu app, a digital platform designed to streamline field operations. He emphasised that strengthening ground-level vigilance is essential as human-wildlife conflict continues to rise across forest-fringe regions.
The Minister also urged the department to conduct awareness programmes in schools located near forest boundaries to familiarise students with wildlife behaviour and conservation practices. He acknowledged concerns over stagnant forest cover in the state even as populations of elephants and tigers have increased. Citing scientific assessments, he noted that a male tiger requires at least 14 sq km of territory and a female between 8 and 10 sq km, making Bandipur's 950 sq km forest area insufficient for its current estimated population of 190 tigers. Khandre inaugurated an integrated command centre at the MM Hills division office in Kollegal, equipped with advanced technology to help reduce human-wildlife conflict. Similar centres are already functional at Nagarahole Tiger Reserve, MM Hills, Kali Tiger Reserve and Madikeri, with trained personnel deployed.
The government is now working to open additional command centres in the Chikkamagaluru division, Bannerghatta National Park, Mysuru division, Bandipur Tiger Reserve, BRT Tiger Reserve and Hassan range. State-level command centre inaguration soon -BMB

Insult to Tulu tradition: Complaint filed against Ranveer Singh

A Bengaluru-based advocate has lodged a complaint with the High Grounds Police Station against Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh, alleging that he insulted the traditional Tulu spirit-worship ritual depicted in the film Kantara.
Prashanth Methal, a practising lawyer in the Karnataka High Court, submitted a written complaint stating that Singh mocked the sacred Daiva tradition during his performance at the closing ceremony of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa on November 28.
Methal claims the actor enacted a caricature of the Panjurli and Guliga Daiva — revered spirit deities in coastal Karnataka — reducing the ritual to what he described as a "crude and comical spectacle". The complaint states that the act has hurt the sentiments of Hindu and Tulu-speaking communities who consider the Daiva tradition deeply sacred.
He further alleges that Singh referred to the Daiva as a "ghost", calling the remark blasphemous and an attempt to undermine the faith. A video clip of the performance, now viral, has sparked criticism from devotees.
Methal has urged the police to register an FIR under sections related to outraging religious feelings, promoting enmity and intentional insult. -BMB

SOCIALTATTLE

THAT WENT VIRAL

@justjalebi1 has this to say about dating in Bengaluru -- reaching the date is so difficult that even using a pigeon to send a message would be easier.

Disha Saini @justjalebi1 · 1h
Dating in Bangalore actually gives early 1900s feels, because sending a pigeon with a love letter might be faster than reaching the date itself.
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@aakssjh
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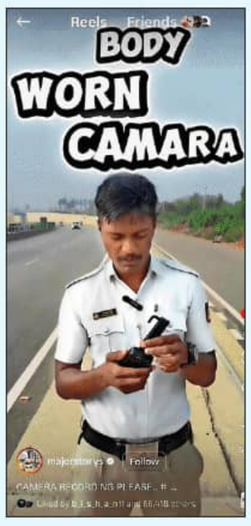
Replying to @justjalebi1
Forget pigeons at this point even a turtle with commitment issues would reach faster than us in Bangalore traffic
8:32 PM · 03 Dec 25



A traffic police official put up a reel on Instagram educating the public about body worn camera - https://www.instagram.com/reel/DRmixWaCWdg/?igsh=YWx0OGlhd3NsaWVq

A Reddit user cautions Bengalureans about a 'new rental scam' targeting apartment seekers in Bengaluru: 'If a deal seems too good to be true...'https://www.reddit.com/r/bangalorerentals/comments/1pb7003/bengaluru_new_flat_rental_scam/?utm_source=share&utm_medium=web3x&utm_name=web3xcss&utm_term=1&utm_content=share_button

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Arindam Dey
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5:35 PM · Dec 3, 2025 · 12 Views

@docarindam writes about how traffic situation near the flyover to airport in Hebbal is messed up due to abrupt turns and hurried entries. Traffic police can take note.

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Drug misuse can cause serious health issues, warn doctors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a controlled pain-killer, to members of the public and college students nearby. An FIR has been registered.

Similarly, in a recent case, a 27-year-old courier agent was caught with 6,700 tablets of Tapentadol, another opioid pain-killer, allegedly intended for sale to students and labourers. In another incident, a teenager was caught on a south Bengaluru roadside while allegedly selling opioid tablets to passersby and college students in the area.

According to the available data, reported cases of Tapentadol addiction surged from 23 as of 2019 to nearly 270 by 2023. This suggests the shift from "traditional narcotics" to painkillers is not anecdotal, but a concerning pattern.

How painkillers are being misused

Originally intended for managing moderate-to-severe pain, tablets like Tydol (which contains opioid-class substances) have legitimate medical use, but their misuse can be dangerous and lethal. In past investigations it has been revealed that addicts crush Tydol tablets, dissolve them in water, and inject the diluted solution using syringes, which is a crude method to get high.

In one widely reported case in Bengaluru, youths who bought Tydol tablets from a pharmacy allegedly mixed them with distilled water, injected the mixture, and suffered fatal consequences.

Healthcare practitioners warn that such misuse can lead to severe side effects, from dizziness, respiratory depression and overdose risk to long-term addiction, neurological damage or even death. "These tablets contain opioid-based substances meant only for legitimate pain management. When misused, particularly via injection, they become as dangerous as illicit narcotics. The risk of overdose, addiction and infections is high," a public-health doctor told BM.

Extensive crackdown

Following the recent directive from the DG & IGP asking officers to move beyond mere arrests and work on dismantling the larger drug ecosystem, senior officials have begun intensifying vigilance on drug trafficking. As part of this expanded approach, city police are now visiting schools and colleges to create awareness and are roping in students as "Friends of Police" to alert them about suspicious activity around campuses.

"The crackdown is happening every single day. The quantities and the value may differ, but our action is continuous. We are targeting synthetic narcotics, hydro ganja, MDMA, cocaine, everything. Many of these cases are based on specific tip-offs, and our recent initiatives are helping us identify networks and intensify enforcement. The series of cases being booked is a direct result of this strengthened flow of information and coordinated action," the Police Commissioner told BM.

2 lakh+ cyber-crime cases in 2021-2023; Telangana; Karnataka top chart

The country witnessed as many as 2,05,287 cases registered under cybercrime between 2021-2023 with 52,974 in 2021, 65,893 in 2022 and 86,420 in 2023, the government said in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday.

This came as a written response from Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar while replying to a question from MP Parimal Nathwani who enquired on the increase in cases of cyber fraud and cyber-crime across the country.

Interestingly, the data revealed that the most tech-savvy states of Telangana and Karnataka were the worst hit by cyber criminals.

According to the data given by the MoS citing the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Telangana tops the chart with 43,836 cases recorded between 20-21-2023 followed by 42,581 in Karnataka, 29,740 in Uttar Pradesh, 21,914 in Maharashtra, 6,368 in Odisha and others.

The lowest number of cases were reported in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep between 2021-2023 with just three such cases, followed by 9 in Ladakh, 14 in Nagaland, 16 in D&N Haveli and Daman & Diu, 83 in A&N Islands among others.

To tackle this menace, "The Ministry of Home Affairs has set up the 'Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre' (I4C) as an attached office to deal with all types of cybercrimes in the country, in a coordinated and comprehensive manner," the MoS noted in his response.

He further added that, "A state-of-the-art, Cyber Fraud Mitigation Centre (CFMC) has been established at I4C where representatives of major banks, Financial Intermediaries, Payment Aggregators, Telecom Service Providers, IT Intermediaries and representatives of States/UTs Law Enforcement Agency are working together for immediate action and seamless cooperation to tackle cybercrime." —IANS

Green signal to responsible citizens

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

had around 700 people, who registered as wardens in the past. The initiative is designed with two things in mind: First, to give citizens the experience of managing traffic so they understand the situation on the ground and provide practical suggestions. Second, to build awareness about the complexities of traffic enforcement and instill a sense of shared ownership," he explained. He added that they have received 1,603 registrations. "Among these, 710 have already completed their on-ground experience and the remaining volunteers will finish their turn next week. Since many prefer weekends, we'll schedule it accordingly and ensure each participant gets hands-on exposure."

Before stepping into the role, every participant undergoes a short orientation session covering safety protocols, standard operating guidelines, and traffic ethics. Volunteers are not authorised to penalise violators or engage in confrontational situations. Instead, their duties remain supportive and observational, focusing on crowd movement, lane discipline, and traffic flow. Officers believe the programme will have ripple effects extending beyond the pilot experience, influencing how motorists behave on the road.

As part of the initiative, among 28 MLAs in Bengaluru, MLA Suresh too joined officers at key junctions to assist in regulating and streamlining traffic.

"Once people see the challenges first-hand -- the heat, the rush, the constant decision-making, they think twice before breaking a rule," a senior officer noted.

"People have been largely understanding, and the experience so far has been positive. We're also taking note of their suggestions. When they share concerns, we explain the situation, and most of them accept and understand it. And we have asked those who give valid suggestions to assist us, " said DCP south traffic Gopal M Byakod.

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Sandesha Handigodu Giriyappa Gowda, S/o Handigodu Chinagowda Giriyappa Gowda, R/o No. 12, Durgamba, 5th Main, 3rd A Cross, Bahubali Nagar, Jalahalli Post, Bengaluru - 560013, have changed my name to Sandesh Handigodu Giriyappa Gowda for all purposes.

I, Shruti Pratik Ballal, D/o Jayant Gangadhar Deshmukh W/o Pratik Jayant Ballal, r/o N004, Nandi Citadel, Nobel Residency Road, BG RD, Chandrashekharpura, Yelenahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka,560076 have changed my name from Shruti Jayant Deshmukh to Shruti Pratik Ballal for all purposes.

I, Sunitha J, D/o Janakiram, R/at No.48, 3rd Floor, Dharani Nilayam, Main Channel road, Halsuru, Bangalore-560008 here by declare that Sunitha J and Sunitha Vinod Kumar, both the name belongs to me only, vide affidavit dt: 02.12.2025 before notary V. Rangaraju, B.lore. Henceforth I shall be called in future SUNITHA J only.

I, RAMESH KUMAR K (K-Kunnath) Alias RAMESH K S/o Ramakrishnan K, No 156/6S, Pournami, 1st Floor, Bhagavathi Layout, 15th B Cross, Hulimavu, Bannergha tta Road, Bangalore-560076, I here by declare that my correct name RAMESH KUMAR K vide affidavit dtd 03.12.2025 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, Nandu Shree Vasudeva Gowda, R/at No.2371, Masjid road, Bapuji Circle, Kadugodi Plantation, Kadugodi, Benga luru-560 067, have changed my name to Nandu Vasudevagowda, vide affidavit dt: 30/11/2025 Notary V. Anjanappa, B.lore.

I, MUNIVENKATAPPA, Residing at 41, 4th Main, NS Palya, BTM 2nd Stage, Bangalore – 560076, have changed my name to MUNIVENKATAPPA K, vide affidavit dated 13/11/2025, sworn before notary Venkataraju H G, Bangalore.

I, PRAGATHI DIWAKAR (Old Name), R/at No.168, 2nd Cross, Shankar Nag Road Domlur 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560071 have changed my name to PRAGATI DIWAKAR (New Name), vide affidavit dt:02.12.2025 before Notary K.V. Mani Bangalore.

I, Prathima Battala Balaraju R/o No.14, Karthik farm and nursery, Kethohalli, Chunchanakuppe, Bengaluru 562130 have changed my name to Prathima Balaraj, Affidavit Dt.03/12/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Eshitha Prasad residing at 35/13 Abodh Valmark A504 Veerannapalya main road Govindapura Nagawara Bangalore 45 have changed my name from Eshita Prasad to Eshitha Prasad for all purposes vide affidavit Dt 27-11-2025

I, Sujatha, R/at No.2371, Masjid road, Bapuji Circle, Kadugodi Plantation, Kadugodi, Benga luru-560067, have changed my name to Sujatha Nanjappa, vide affidavit dt: 30/11/2025 Notary V Anjanappa, B.lore.

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I, Pushpalatha W/o Manjunath H K R/o #108,1st Floor Mahaveer Fortune Apts, Hosahalli B'lore-560091 have changed my name to Pushpalatha C D.

I, Seema Kouser Sultana, R/at No.4 E No 3rd Street, Nala Road, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-560051, Have Changed My Name To Seema Kausar, For All Purposes.

I AZIZ BAIG s/o Khalandar R/@ No 1-9 4th Crs Ambedkar Nagar Magadi Road Bangalore 560023 had changed my name to AZEEZ BAIG for all purposes

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REASON TO CARE

Research shows empathy and reasoning often join forces to inspire helping others

For years, philosophers and psychologists have debated whether empathy helps or hinders the ways people decide how to help others. Critics of empathy argue that it makes people care too narrowly – focusing on individual stories rather than the broader needs of society – while careful reasoning enables more impartial, evidence-based choices.

Our new research, forthcoming in the academic journal PNAS Nexus, a flagship peer-reviewed journal of the National Academy of Sciences, suggests this "heart versus head" argument is too simple. Empathy and reasoning aren't rivals – they work together. Each one on its own predicts more generous, far-reaching acts of assistance. And when they operate side by side, people tend to help in the fairest ways – not favouring some over others – and in ways that touch the most lives.

We studied two groups that regularly help others at personal cost. One consisted of living organ donors who gave kidneys to strangers. The other included "effective altruists," who use evidence and logic to direct substantial portions of their income or careers toward causes that save the most lives per dollar, such as fighting extreme poverty or preventable illness.

All participants completed survey measures of empathy – essentially, how much they care about and are moved by others' suffering. They also completed survey measures of reasoning. These assess how often people slow down, reflect and think through things before deciding what to do.

We also examined how these abilities related to a range of altruistic judgments and behaviours, from hypothetical choices – such as deciding whether to help a close friend or a distant stranger – to real-world donations.

On average, organ donors scored higher on empathy, and effective altruists scored higher on reflective reasoning – slowing down and thinking things through. But across all participants, both traits were linked to broader, more outward-looking helping. People with either an elevated heart or head, and especially those with both compared with average adults, tended to support distant others and focus on helping as many people as possible.

Even among organ donors, whose empathic ability is far above average adults', empathy did not make them biased toward those who were close or familiar. When we measured their altruistic judgments and real-world donations, they were just as likely as average adults, and sometimes even more likely, to favour causes that saved the greatest number of lives.

These patterns challenge the assumption that empathy can narrow moral concern. In practice, we found, empathy can broaden it.

Why it matters

Many of today's most urgent problems – poverty, climate change, global health – depend on motivating people to care about strangers and to use limited resources effectively.

Appeals to empathy alone may inspire giving but not necessarily the most effective giving. Appeals to reason alone can leave people unmoved, as often facts and numbers don't stir anyone to care. Our findings suggest that the most powerful approach may be to pair empathy's motivation with reasoning's direction.

Empathy provides the emotional spark – a reminder that others' suffering matters. Reasoning helps steer that motivation toward where help will have the greatest impact. Together, they encourage helping that is both compassionate and consequential.

What's next

Future research needs to determine how empathy and reasoning can be strengthened in everyday decision-making. Could emotional stories paired with clear evidence about what works best help people choose actions that do the most good?

We also don't yet know whether people who focus their giving beyond the boundaries of their immediate social circles, like effective altruists, pay any social cost for doing so – perhaps by inadvertently signalling less investment in close others. Promisingly, early evidence from organ donors shows that those who help strangers often maintain strong, stable relationships with their closest friends and family members.

Perhaps most importantly, researchers need to rethink how altruism is understood. Psychology lacks a clear framework for explaining how empathy and reasoning work together, for whom they work best, and the situations where they come apart.

Developing that kind of model would reshape how we think about helping – when helping expands, when it stalls, and why. While such core questions remain, the present findings offer reason for optimism.

(By Kyle Fiore Law, Arizona State University, Brendan Bo O'Connor, University at Albany, State University of New York, and Stylianos Syropoulos, Arizona State University, The Conversation)

MIRRORLIGHTS

Study shows how TB bacteria shield themselves from antibiotics

The bacteria Mycobacterium tuberculosis, which causes the world's most infectious disease Tuberculosis (TB), can survive antibiotic treatment and live longer by changing their outer fat coating, according to a new study led by researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay.

Even with effective antibiotics and widespread vaccination campaigns, TB continues to take lives.

Globally, 10.7 million people developed TB and 1.23 million died from the disease in 2024, while India carries one of the highest burdens – over 2.71 million cases in 2024.

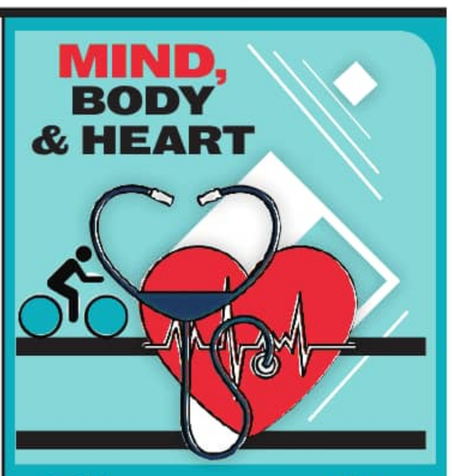
In the study, published in the Chemical Science journal, the researchers showed that the key to the bacteria's drug tolerance lies in their membranes – complex barriers made mostly of fats, or lipids that protect the cell.

The team grew the bacteria under two conditions: an active phase, when the bacteria were dividing rapidly as they do in an active infection, and a late stage mimicking dormancy, as seen in latent infections.

When they exposed the bacteria to four common TB drugs: rifabutin, moxifloxacin, amikacin, and clarithromycin, the team found that the concentration of drugs needed to stop 50 per cent of bacterial growth was two to 10 times higher in dormant bacteria than in active ones.

In other words, "the same drug that worked well in the early stage of the disease would now be needed at a much higher concentration to kill the dormant/persistent TB cells. This change was not caused by genetic mutations, which usually explain antibiotic resistance," said Prof Shobhna Kapoor from the Department of Chemistry, IIT-B.

—IANS



All you need to know about...

Having hobbies

Ruchi Ruuh, a leading counselling psychologist, explains why grandma hobbies became a central theme of this year. She says, "Grandma hobbies work because they're slow, repetitive and very tactile. They pull you back into your body and feel the moment."

The hobby trend

When asked about the resurgence of grandma hobbies and why it has now become a trend, Richa Saini, a counselling psychologist and a content creator, adds, "I feel it has surged to this extent because people have been experiencing collective stress for the last few years since the pandemic happened. A lot of people couldn't enjoy their lives fully and were pushed to grow up soon and take up a lot of responsibility, because of which now people are connecting back to their inner child needs and things which used to bring them joy in their childhood to feel happier again."

Joy in process

Hobbies, more often than not, shape a good portion of our personalities and sharpen our understanding of ourselves. It helps calm the nerves by emphasising the process as opposed to the outcome, and in that manner, we learn to appreciate smaller things in life.

Grateful pursuits

Hobbies ground us without external validation from sources; it becomes more like eating your fill and being grateful for it. Hobbies satisfy the hunger for a dopamine rush in a more channelled and natural state of flow that doomscrolling and rapid updates fail to do in the long run.

Hello, me

Reclaiming hobbies becomes an act of self-love and appreciation. The more we explore the hidden spaces of our lives, we tend to discover attributes and desires we were not at first aware of.

—Femina

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facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

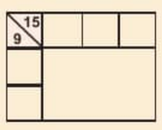
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

$\sqrt[1/8]{4} \div \sqrt[1/4]{8} = 32^{\wedge}x$

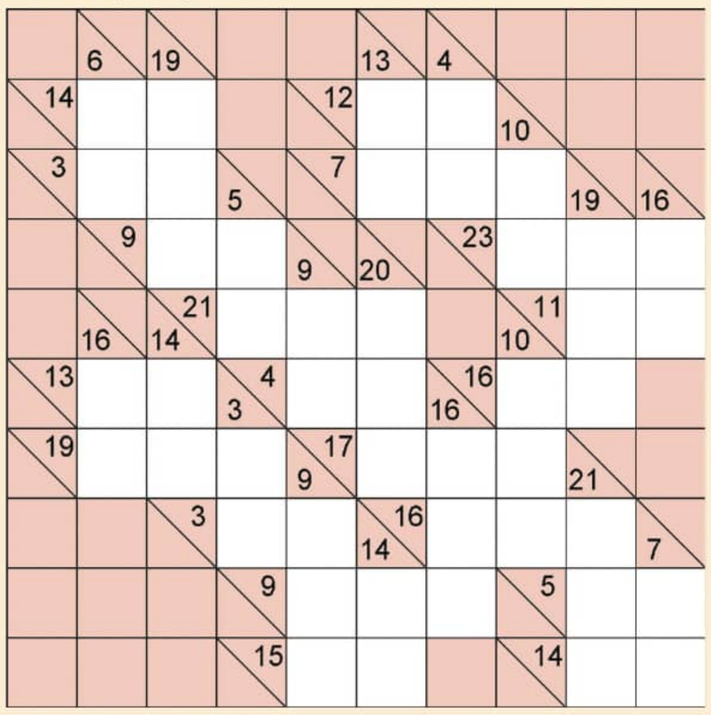
$x = ?$

Kakuro

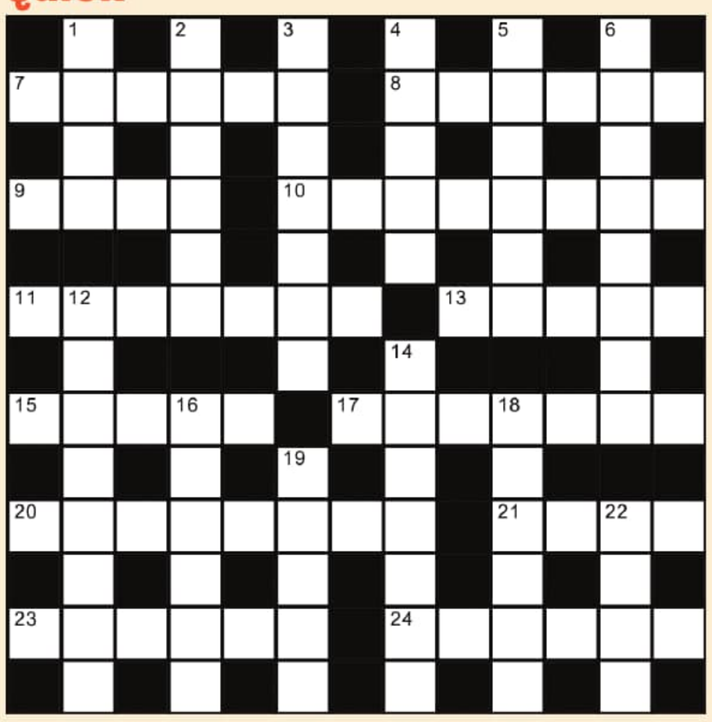
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Tennis star Andre ___ (6)
8 Russian plain? (6)
9 To be (Latin) (4)
10 Moving on hands and knees (8)
11 An infectious fever (7)
13 Book reference (5)
15 Call a ___ a ___ : be forthright (same word)? (5)
17 Cleanliness (7)
20 Vegetable with green flower heads (8)
21 You will find the remnants of his fort in the City Market area (4)
23 Earnest request (6)
24 Persons irretrievably lost (6)

DOWN

1 Birds lay them (4)
2 Willow twigs for basket-making (6)
3 People manning plane (7)
4 Dispur is its capital (5)
5 Be a seller of? (4,2)
6 Systematically and constantly obtain money from one's friends? (6,2)
12 Sovereign rulers or monarchs (8)
14 A medical instrument used to inject or withdraw fluids(7)
16 Lifelike lures (6)
18 Chant or sing (6)
19 Accumulate (5)
22 Garden open to public (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: X EQUALS T

XSQ KCSEWWN JQMYGQ RFDZFMX ZMFD XSQ DYUZFMXKCQU FZ FXSQMU.

Linemaro

Kiss me if I am wrong, but dinosaurs still exist, right?

Mindchow

Stop feeling sorry for yourself and you will be happy

Joke of the day

The first time I got a universal remote control, I told myself, 'This changes everything'

Loop

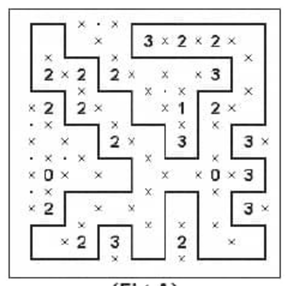
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

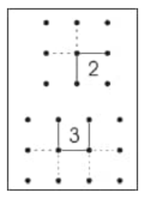
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

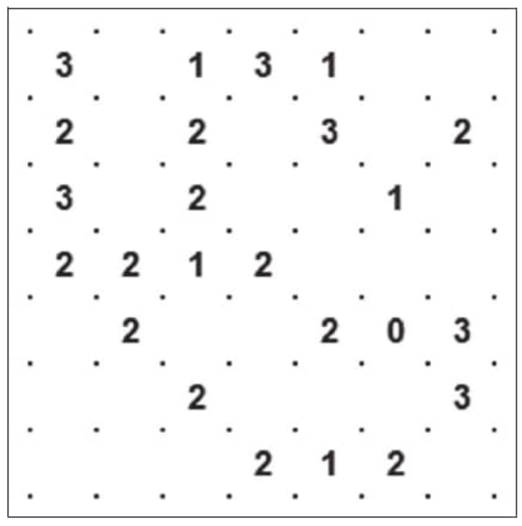
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



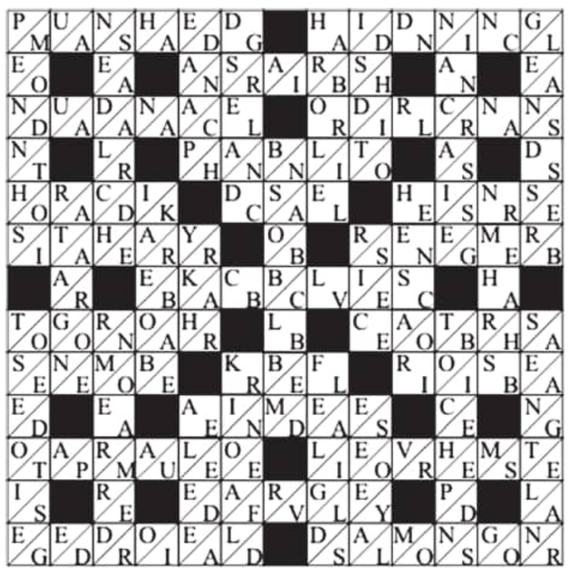
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



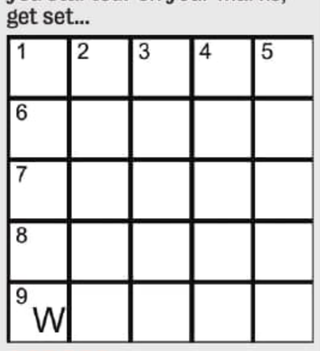
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Plats; 6 Rue IQ;
7 Re tut; 8 Arhat;
9 O Yowl

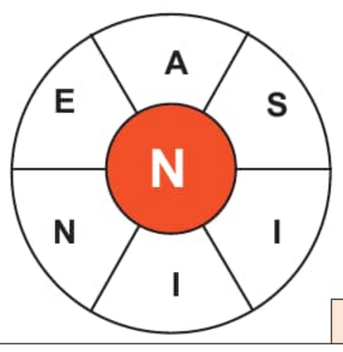
DOWN

1 SW qua; 2 Tot up;
3 Loth I; 4 A rale;
5 Retry

Mensapuzzle

Which number continues this sequence?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

05 Average; **06** Good; **08** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

			5		8			
	6						9	
5	1		6		3		4	7
7			3	6	1			5
		1				9		
2			8	7	9			4
8	2		9		4		3	6
	5						8	
			1		2			

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

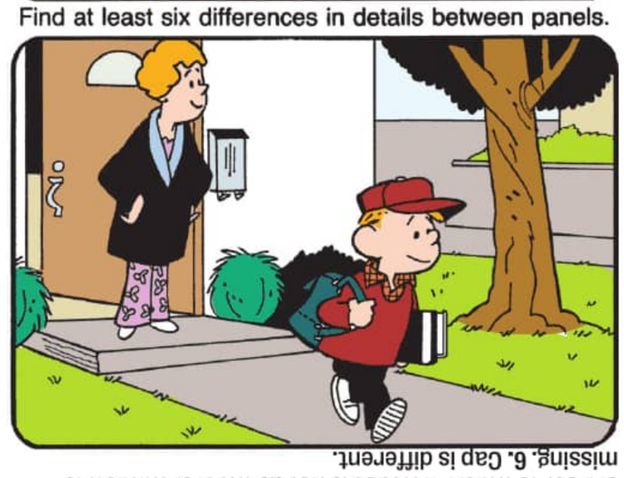
Easy = 3
2 4 5 6

Medium = 8
8 8 6 3

Hard = 1
3 4 5 6

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



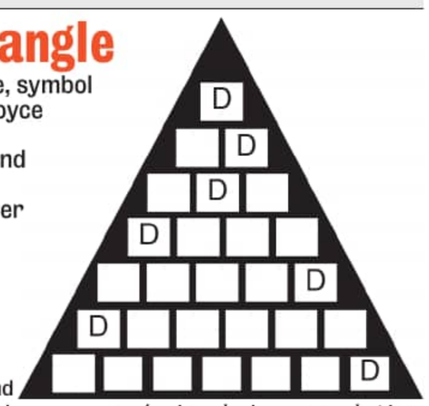
Differences: 1. Mailbox is larger. 2. Book is added. 3. Door is wider. 4. House is not as wide. 5. Window is missing. 6. Cap is different.

Riddler

Think of the six-letter name of a European capital city whose starting letter falls in the last half dozen letters of the alphabet and whose last letter is a vowel. Now think of a three-letter words that means "permit". Last, combine all nine letters from the two words above. Rearrange the letters to form a word that you might call someone you like.

Alpha triangle

1 Hydrogen isotope, symbol
2 English opener Joyce
3 Lyric poem
4 Be excessively fond
5 Well-known
6 University lecturer
7 Vie

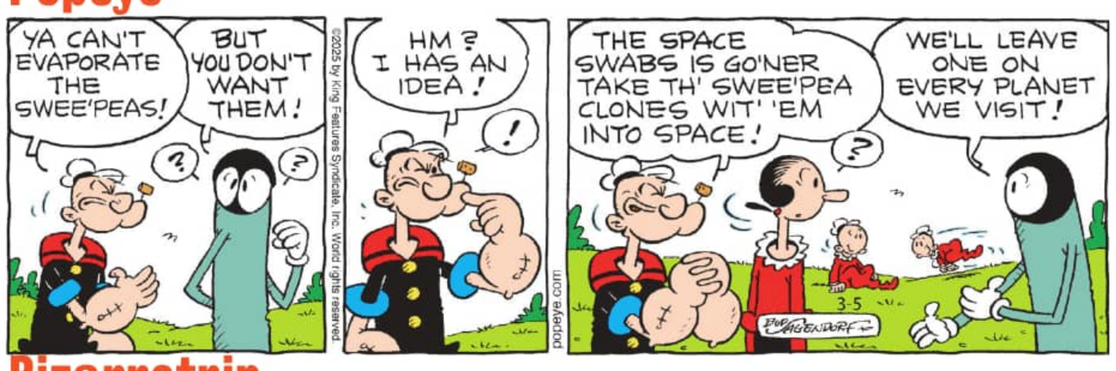


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye


YA CAN'T EVAPORATE THE SWEE'PEAS!
BUT YOU DON'T WANT THEM!
HM ? I HAS AN IDEA !
THE SPACE SWABS IS GO'NER TAKE TH' SWEE'PEA CLONES WIT' 'EM INTO SPACE!
WE'LL LEAVE ONE ON EVERY PLANET WE VISIT!
3-5
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

©2025 BIZARRO STUDIOS BIZARRO.COM
Don't drink from the stream by the weird smoking mountains.
Wayno & Piraro 8-25-25
Dist. by King Features

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

SORRY FOR SNEEZING IN YOUR FACE DURING THE STAGE KISS.
YOU SNEEZED IN MY MOUTH.
I CAN DO BETTER! SEE?
UH... HEART? HELLO?
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

...AND HE WAS HIDING UNDER THE BED CRYING, AND SAYING HE DIDN'T WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL!
WAS THAT ABOUT OUR GRANDSON, MITCH?
NO... DAD!
8-25
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BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

Though the energy shifts toward structure, your Sagittarius spirit craves one last burst of carefree fun before month-end commitments intensify. Satisfy this urge with an outdoor activity or a vigorous workout that clears your head. Later, an unexpected call from an old mentor could provide the exact perspective needed to finetune your next big strategy.

Aries Mar 21–Apr 20
Creative energy surrounds you today. Let your imagination flow and take bold steps forward in your career. Trust your instincts completely, risktaking now could open doors you never expected before.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Your leadership energy radiates today. Motivate those around you and take charge with confidence. By inspiring others through example, you'll achieve major breakthroughs and recognitionin your professional path.

Sagittarius Nov 23–Dec 22
Optimism lights your path today. Embrace challenges with curiosity and courage. Take calculated risks, your adventurous mindset attracts new opportunities and pushes your professional growth.

Taurus Apr 21–May 20
Your dedication and discipline shine today. Focus on precision, organisation, and steady progress. Every small, consistent effort pays off. Keep pushing forward, you're buildingsomething strong.

Virgo Aug 24–Sep 23
Analytical thinking and attention to detail serve you well today. Focus on organisation, structure, and refining your ideas. Problem-solving calmly and logically will bring success and professional satisfaction.

Capricorn Dec 23–Jan 20
Discipline and perseverance define your day. Focus on effciency and progress, not perfection. By staying committed to your goals, you'll make steady, tangible advancements in your career journey today.

Gemini May 21–Jun 21
Your words carry weight today. Express your thoughts confidently and connect meaningfully with others. Strong communication will attract opportunities and help you advance professionally with clarity.

Libra Sep 24–Oct 22
Collaboration leads to success today. Strengthen bonds through teamwork and diplomacy. When you align with others toward shared goals, collective energy propels you forward and enhances your career growth beautifully.

Aquarius Jan 21–Feb 19
Your originality stands out today. Approach work creatively and challenge outdated methods. Innovative thinking brings recognition and fresh possibilities, trust your unique vision to set you apart professionally.

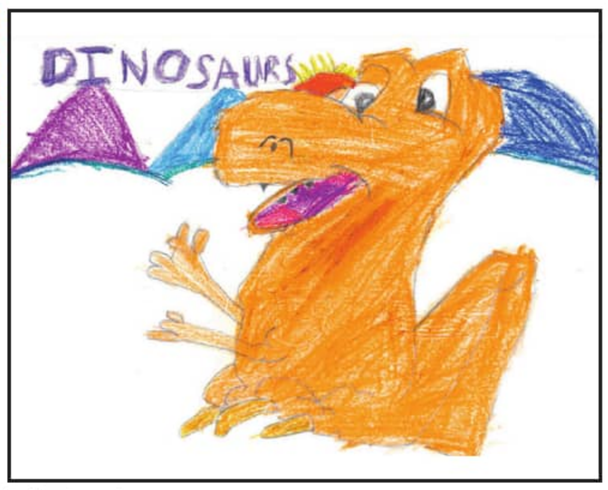
Cancer Jun 22–July 23
Your intuition guides you powerfully today. Emotional awareness helps you handle challenges gracefully. Strengthen professional relationships by showing empathy and understanding.

Scorpio Oct 23–Nov 22
Your determination and passion fuel great success today. Trust your instincts and act decisively. Bold, focused effort will help you overcome barriers and achieve something transformative in your professional world.

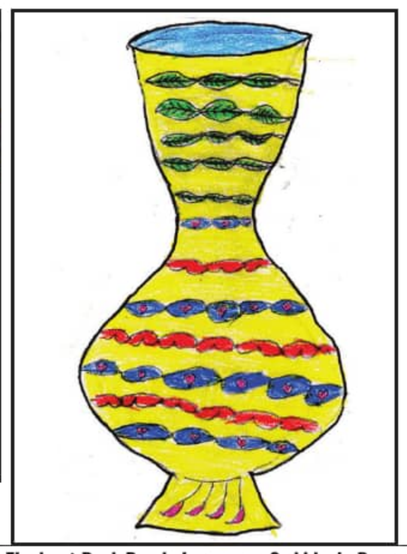
Pisces Feb 20–Mar 20
Empathy guides your professional interactions today. Use intuition to navigate situations and strengthen connections. Your understanding nature fosters harmony, trust, and progress within your workspace.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Rohin, Bengaluru



Brinda, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
4^(1/(1/8)) ÷ 4^(1/(1/4)) = 32^x
4^8 ÷ 8^4 = 32^x
2^16 ÷ 2^12 = 2^5x
2^(16-12) = 2^5x
2^4 = 2^5x
5x = 4
x = 4/5

BULL'S EYE
anise, ASININE, inane, insane, nine, sane, sienna, sine

FAST FIVE

S	P	L	A	T
Q	U	I	R	E
U	T	T	E	R
A	T	H	A	R
W	O	O	L	Y

STRIKE OUT

M	A	S	H	E	D	■	A	I	D	I	N	G	■	■
O	■	E	■	A	R	A	B	S	■	N	■	A	■	■
N	U	A	N	C	E	■	O	I	L	C	A	N	■	■
T	■	R	■	H	A	B	I	T	■	A	■	D	■	■
H	A	C	K	■	D	A	L	■	E	S	N	E	■	■
S	A	H	A	R	■	B	■	S	N	E	E	R	■	■
■	R	■	B	A	B	B	L	E	S	■	A	■	■	■
T	O	R	A	H	■	L	■	C	O	B	R	A	■	■
S	N	O	B	■	K	E	F	■	R	I	S	E	■	■
E	■	A	■	A	N	D	E	S	■	C	■	G	■	■
T	A	M	A	L	E	■	L	O	V	E	M	E	■	■
S	■	E	■	E	A	R	L	Y	■	P	■	A	■	■
E	D	D	I	E	D	■	S	A	M	S	O	N	■	■

QUICK

■	■	■	■	E	■	A	■	D	■	S	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	A	G	A	S	S	I	■	S	T	E	P	P	E
■	■	■	■	G	■	I	■	R	■	S	■	A	■	O	■
■	■	■	E	E	S	C	R	A	W	L	I	N	G	■	■
■	■	■	S	■	R	■	M	■	I	■	G	■	■	■	■
■	■	M	E	A	S	L	E	S	■	I	N	D	E	X	■
■	■	S	P	A	D	E	■	H	Y	G	I	E	N	E	■
■	■	■	E	■	H	■	R	■	N	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	B	R	O	C	O	L	I	■	T	I	P	U	■	■
■	■	O	■	O	■	A	■	N	■	O	■	A	■	■	■
■	■	P	R	A	Y	E	R	■	G	O	N	E	R	S	■
■	■	S	■	S	■	D	■	E	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
48. Numbers advance by 2, 4, 8 and 16.

RIDDLER
1. Vienna
2. Let
3. Valentine
(Vienna + let)

QUOTE UNCODE
The unhappy derive comfort from the misfortunes of others.

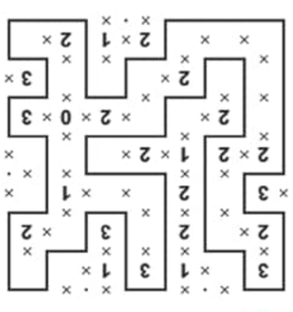
SUDOKU

9	7	2	5	4	8	3	6	1
4	6	3	2	1	7	5	9	8
5	1	8	6	9	3	2	4	7
7	9	4	3	6	1	8	2	5
6	8	1	4	2	5	9	7	3
2	3	5	8	7	9	6	1	4
8	2	7	9	5	4	1	3	6
1	5	9	7	3	6	4	8	2
3	4	6	1	8	2	7	5	9

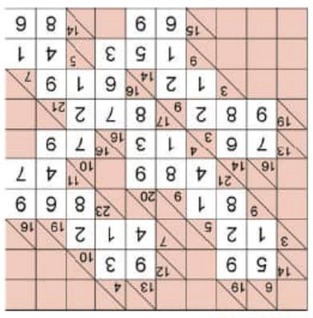
ALPHA TRIANGLE
D, Ed, Ode, Dote, Noted, Docent, Contend.

GO FIGURE
4-5 + 6-2 = 3
Easy
6-8 + 3 x 8 = 8
Medium
6-4 x 3-5 = 1
Hard

LOOP



KAKURO



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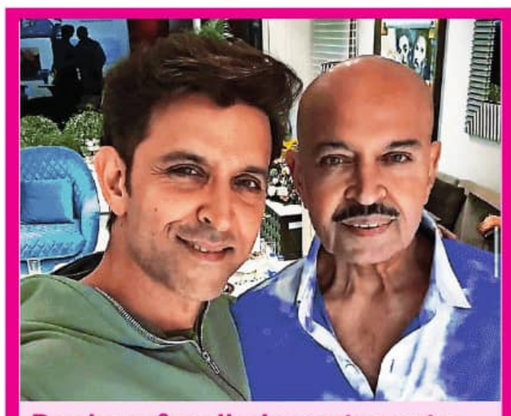
Katy Perry, Justin Trudeau reunite— The singer and former Canadian PM were spotted on a low-key Tokyo date ahead of Perry's Lifetimes Tour shows. Their outing marks a reunion after spending Thanksgiving apart

Real estate, Bollywood style

Mumbai realty becomes celebrity playground

Bollywood may be known for its larger-than-life films, but November 2025 showed that the industry's stars are just as bold when it comes to real-life investments. From Amitabh Bachchan and Hrithik Roshan to Saif Ali Khan and Preity Zinta, several well-known families made major moves in Mumbai's property market.

Collectively, Bollywood-linked deals added up to nearly ₹100 crore in one month alone. While some stars chose to expand their property portfolios, others decided to sell long-held assets and reorganise their investments. As reported by Hindustan Times, here is a full look at the biggest celebrity property headlines from November. **— ETimes**

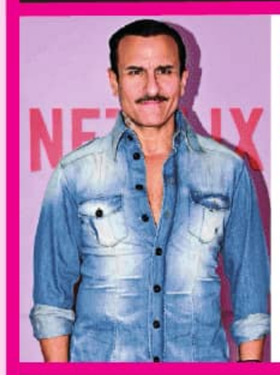


Roshan family investments

In November 2025, the Roshan family, led by filmmaker Rakesh Roshan and actor Hrithik Roshan, made significant commercial property purchases in Mumbai's Andheri.On November 19, Rakesh and Pramila Roshan acquired five office units for 19.68 crore. Property documents show the units are in Vaidya West World One Aeropolis, bought from Vaidya Spaces Pvt Ltd. On November 24, Sunaina Rakesh Roshan bought two units for 6.42 crore. On November 27, Hrithik, Rakesh's HRX Digitech LLP, and Pramila's Filmkunj Pvt Ltd purchased ten units for 28 crore, boosting the family's Andheri presence.

Preity's property exit

Actress Preity Zinta also entered the property news cycle in November when she sold her Bandra flat for ₹14.08 crore. According to documents accessed by CRE Matrix, Zinta had purchased the same flat from Keystone Realtors (Rustomjee Group) in October 2023 for ₹17.01 crore. The 1,474 sq ft home is located on the 11th floor of a Rustomjee building named Parishram. The sale included two parking spaces and was made to an individual named Vishal Kalyan Mirchanandi. Although the selling price is lower than her original cost, sources close to the actress indicated that she may reinvest this money in buying another property in Bandra, possibly in the ₹100 crore range.



Saif Ali Khan purchase

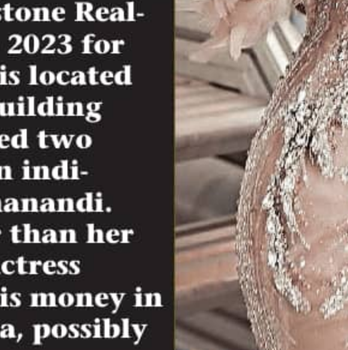
Bollywood actor Saif Ali Khan made one of the month's most notable purchases by investing 30.75 crore in two commercial office units in Andheri East. According to property registration papers, the units are located inside a building called Kanakia Wall Street and cover a combined space of 5,681 sq ft. They also include six parking spaces. The documents show that the seller was Apicore Pharmaceutical, a US-based pharmaceutical company. With this deal, Saif has added a sizeable commercial asset to his portfolio, marking a shift from the luxury homes Bollywood stars are often associated with.

Amitabh sells assets

While some stars were buying, others were selling. Veteran actor Amitabh Bachchan made headlines after selling two adjoining luxury flats in Goregaon East for ₹12 crore. According to documents accessed by CRE Matrix, the superstar had originally purchased these units in 2012 for ₹8.12 crore. Over 13 years, this resulted in a return of nearly 47%.

Subhra's twin flats

November also saw a major residential purchase from within the film industry. Sushmita Sen's mother, Subhra Sen, bought two flats worth ₹16.89 crore in Mumbai's Goregaon East. Property documents reviewed by SquareYards on the Inspector General of Registration (IGR) website confirmed the deal. The flats are part of Oberoi Realty's Elysian project, one of the premium housing developments in the area. This purchase shows a growing trend of families of Bollywood stars investing in high-value residential properties in emerging suburbs.



Rashmika issues warning about AI fakes

The use of AI to create fake images of actresses and stars is increasing in the film industry. Such misrepresentations, particularly of female stars, are increasingly being spread on social media in an unwanted manner. Previously, stars such as Keerthy Suresh and Girija Oak have spoken out against this openly. Now, Thamma actress Rashmika Mandanna has released a statement regarding this on her X (formerly Twitter) page.

Rashmika warns of fabricated online "truth"

Rashmika Mandanna's post begins with the quote: "When truth can be manufactured, discernment becomes our greatest defence." Furthermore, Rashmika Mandanna noted that the use of AI to create vulgarity and target women "reveals the decline of some people's refined secularism". The internet and social media are no longer a mirror of truth, she said. "It is a canvas where anything can be fabricated. Let us rise above misuse and use AI to build a more dignified and progressive society. Choose responsibility over recklessness," she said. Along with this, Rashmika Mandanna stated that strict action should be taken against those who misuse AI, and that "if people cannot act like humans, then strict and unforgiving punishment must be served to them".

Fans hope for strict action against AI abusers

This is noteworthy: two years ago, an AI-generated video of Rashmika mispronouncing her name went viral, forcing her to clarify the issue. Similarly, Keerthy Suresh and Girija Oak have also recently raised the same concern and are speaking out about the dangers faced by women globally. Fans hope that the misuse of artificial intelligence to create false and derogatory images targeting women will be curbed.

Rashmika continues her strong career run

Rashmika Mandanna had five releases—Chhaava, Sikandar, Kuberaa, Thamman, and Girl Friend—all well received. She aims to impress fans across multiple languages in 2026. **—ETimes**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

New song is out

Abhinaya Chatura Satish Ninasam is excited about unveiling a song from his much-awaited film The Rise of Ashoka. The song, Yelo Yelo Mahadeva, was unveiled at Sri Gavi Gangadhareshwara Swamy Temple in the city. Satish Ninasam wrote the lyrics. The song has been rendered by Kailash Kher, Sadhwini Koppa and Siddu, while Poornachandra Tejaswi has composed the music.

The film was earlier titled Ashoka Blade, but the title was later changed to The Rise of Ashoka.

Satish Ninasam became emotional after unveiling the song. "I starred in Ayogya and aimed for a hit like KGF and Kantara. Despite the director's tragic suicide and my brother's accident, I spent three years completing the film without taking any payment," narrated Satish Ninasam.

Sapthami Gowda, famed for Kantara, plays the female lead in The Rise of Ashoka. "I am very happy to be part of this team. I play Ambika, a flower seller. I want to appreciate Satish Ninasam for his hard work and dedication," she said.

The film features Satish Ninasam, Sapthami Gowda, B Suresh, Ravishankar, Gopalakrishna Deshpande, Sampath Maitreya, Yash Shetty, Dragon Manju and Vikram The film is set for release in Kannada, Tamil and Telugu.

It's a wrap for Samudra Manthan

Director Sachin Shetty's next film Samudra Manthana has completed shooting, and the team is currently busy with post-production work. Samudra Manthana, Sachin Shetty's third film, is not a mythological drama as its title suggests but a suspense thriller. Prior to this, Sachin Shetty directed the Kannada films Ondu Shikariya Kathe and Vasanthakalada Hoogalu. Ondu Shikariya Kathe received positive feedback from critics when it was screened at the Bengaluru International Film Festival in 2020.

"Though Ondu Shikariya Kathe got good reviews, it struggled at the box office due to the 2020 lockdown and did well on OTT. My second film Vasanthakalada Hoogalu released in November 2023, and I have completed my third film Samudra Manthan," said Sachin Shetty. "It is a suspense thriller with romance, sentiment, and action. All the actors have performed well." The film stars Yashwanth Kumar and Mandara Battalahalli. Shot around Kundapur and Shivamogga in 34 days, it has six action sequences and three songs. The film also features Skanda Ashok, Naveen Shetty, Shivaprakash Poonja and Roopa Shetty, with release planned next year.